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488CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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COUNTRY Soviet Zone, Austria

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in BADEN near VIENNA

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EVALUATION See below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT See below

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 24 August 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. a. Former "Hauptschule" building east of the theater (previously called "Batzenhaeuser"):

Not permanently occupied; used as office building; two sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets in front; guard detail of 12 men coming from Germengasse.

b. No motor vehicle traffic; officers, even high-ranking officers, always walked.

c. The headquarters of the Soviet occupation forces in Austria was located there, [REDACTED]

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2. Stalin Ring (formerly Kaiser Franz Josef Ring):

Blocked by turnpikes and sentries, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, between Annagasse and Arendstrasse. The Soviet "High Commissioner" was billeted in this restricted area, [REDACTED]

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3. Former "Kurhaus" (spa hotel):

Theater and motion picture performances as well as dances of the occupation forces were held there. The number of visitors often totaled 1,000 to 1,200 per night.

4. Houses on either side of Frostgasse:

Quarters for officers and EM, predominantly wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

Document No. 2

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS

DDA Memo. 2 Apr 77

DDA REG. 7/1/78

Date: 19 MAY 1978 By: [REDACTED]

5. Germengasse:

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the

CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]

Next Review Date: 2008

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a. Blocked by turnpikes, but no sentries, between Weinberg-gasse and Flamm-gasse. Houses in this restricted area served as quarters for officers and LM, wearing black-bordered black epaulets.

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b. Motor vehicles [redacted] parked there (without drivers):

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6. Building on Annagasse, Corner of Antonsgasse:

Office rooms; no guards; office personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets took their meals in the A. messhall (see para 7).

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7. House at 16 Grabengasse (bordering on the municipal fire depot); A. messhall and PK; serving 150 to 200 troops (black-bordered red epaulets) from the offices mentioned in para 6 and para 1.

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8. "Gruener Baum" hotel on Theresien-gasse, corner of Renn-gasse:

Quarters for about 50 families of officers wearing black-bordered red and red-bordered black epaulets. The following passenger cars driven by soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets were parked there:

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9. "Herzogshof" hotel (west of "Gruener Baum" hotel, to be seen from Renn-gasse:

Occupied by officer families.

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10. a. Former "Mariazellerhof" on Polz-gasse, corner of Marchet-strasse: Hospital; troops wearing black-bordered red; red-bordered black; black-bordered black and black-bordered blue epaulets were observed.

b. Passenger car [redacted] and truck [redacted] were parked there.

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11. House at 47 Marchetstrasse:
So-called "club".

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12. Eighty percent of all houses on Melnenstrasse:
Occupied by troops including dependents.

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22 July 1949

13. a. Sentries with black-bordered black epaulets and trucks [redacted] were observed at House No. 10

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on Helenenstrasse where approach road to "Debelhoff Park" and to the occupied castle (northwestern corner of the park) branches off:

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- b. Engineer unit occupied to capacity the "Helenental" hotel, west of the junction of Helenenstrasse and Morisgasse. Sentries and drivers of motor vehicles communicating there wore black-bordered black epaulets. Lumber yards southwest of the hotel were occupied, too. Motor vehicles entered the area via Meilburgstrasse and left via Helenenstrasse. A motor vehicle repair shop was located in the area concerned.

22 July 1949

14. "Meilburg" Castle:

Destroyed by bombs.

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15. Habsburgerstrasse:

a. Houses between Poetschnergasse and Landwirtgasse served as quarters for officers and men wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

b. The trucks [redacted] were identified there.

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16. Restricted area bordered by Aliebothstrasse, Schimnergasse and Habsburgerstrasse:

a. Surrounded by high border fence with barbed wire and continuously patrolled by guards wearing black-bordered red epaulets. All window panes of the former private houses had been replaced by opalescent glass.

b. An MDJ office with remand-jail for Soviet servicemen and Soviet and Austrian civilians was located there according to municipal officials.

22 July 1949

17. House at 15 Schimnergasse:

a. Large office house surrounded by a high board fence and heavily guarded by troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

b. A colonel, who arrived by passenger car [redacted] had to produce his pass before being allowed to enter the building. The passenger car [redacted] (without driver) was parked there.

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c. The passenger cars (without driver) were parked in front of an office at 9 Schmidt-gasse.

18. All buildings on Schmidt-gasse:

Officers billets: Personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets were observed.

19. All houses on both sides of Elisabethstrasse:

quarters for officers and men, predominantly wearing black-bordered red epaulets, few wearing black-bordered black epaulets.

22 July 1949

20. Corner building on Elisabethstrasse and Reilburgstrasse: Office.

21. Former "Kaserne", south of Reilburgstrasse, between Elisabeth-gasse and Voelslauerstrasse:

quarters for about 100 officer families.

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22. Officer club and bath for Soviet civilians. South of the building a parking lot with mostly "Studebaker" trucks.

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23. "Kaserne" at 9 Voelslauerstrasse:

Office, allegedly the military court for all occupation forces in Austria and Hungary.

Personnel wore black-bordered red epaulets. About 60 NCOs and men were quartered in the building. All officers and other personnel were quartered on Elisabethstrasse, and Habsburgerstrasse.

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24. Building on Voelslauerstrasse, opposite the "Kaserne":

Office; personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets. About 30 troops were billeted there, other 100 troops working there were billeted on Habsburgerstrasse.

25. House at 25 Bräunerstrasse:

Kommandantura; about 50 officers, NCOs and men with black-bordered red epaulets were seen.

26. Former girls' boarding house on the southern side of the western end of Dreyergasse:

quarters for about 40 women wearing uniforms with black-bordered red epaulets; employed in the office building (see para 1).

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27. Depot on Frauenjosse, corner of Hoyerjosse:
Signal equipment, chiefly telephones and field wires,
were stored there. About 50 troops with black-bordered
black epaulets were quartered there.

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28. 18 July 1949

Garages at the yard of former post office [] at 14 25X1
Waltersdorferstrasse:

Twenty-five to 30 motor vehicles were usually parked
there. []

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22 July 1949

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29. House on Weilburgerstrasse, corner of Liasgasse (west of
"Gartenhof"):
Office with about 100 officers and men wearing black-
bordered red epaulets.

21 July 1949

30. Kaserne on Voelklauerstrasse, west of SOUS:
Troops with red-bordered black epaulets and tank and
artillery insignia were quartered in the kaserne
buildings along the street. [] motor
vehicles left the kaserne in the direction of BADEN:

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31. a. Private billets of officers and men, with or without
dependents, were located all over the town, in addition
to those mentioned in para 1 thru 29.

b. [] stated 25X1X
that 10,000 to 12,000 troops were located in BADEN,
including the kaserne west of SOUS.

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Comment:

a. With only insufficient information on the BADEN
military post available for comparison, it is not
possible to comment on the report in detail.

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b. [] for the first time reported the HQ of the Central Group of Forces to be located in the "Batzenhaus". This information needs to be confirmed by [] equally high reliability rating.

c. From the report and previous information it is assumed that primarily units directly assigned to the HQ of the Central Group of Forces (signal and guard units and LVD troops) are located in Bism. This assumption is corroborated [] in the report.

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